

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

POLICY

Use of Artificial Wildlife

RM-415
(Rev.09/04/2013)

Authority

§17-1-5, 17-2-2.1, 17-2-7 NMSA 1978

Purpose

This policy directs the use and approval process for officers utilizing artificial wildlife for statewide compliance.

Policy

It shall be the policy of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish to utilize artificial wildlife in its enforcement efforts. The use of artificial wildlife shall be governed by the procedures approved by the Director of the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and set forth in the Statewide Law Enforcement Operational Procedures.

For the purpose of this policy, artificial wildlife shall mean any simulated or imitation object that represents wildlife species defined under Section 17-2-3 NMSA 1978.

Any operation utilizing artificial wildlife will be managed by an officer in charge, who must receive prior approval by a District Wildlife Supervisor or Captain of Field Operations.

The officer in charge will continually monitor the site location of an artificial wildlife operation to ensure that there are no hazards to officers, the public, or violators by the discharge of any weapons at or in the direction of the artificial wildlife. The artificial wildlife must be placed in a manner to provide an adequate backstop for shots that are fired.

A minimum of three officers and at least one marked vehicle with standard emergency equipment shall be required for all operations.

Nighttime operations utilizing the minimum of three officers must have the location, kind and number of artificial wildlife approved by the appropriate Captain.

All officers making initial contact with the public shall be in field uniform.

This policy was approved and implemented by:



James S. Lane, Jr., Director



Date